

Appl. Serial No.: 10/719,990

reagent.

II	15-28	A method of detecting a phosphoprotein
III	29-35	A method for early diagnosis of a change in state of a target tissue, comprising detecting a change in the phosphorylation status of a protein present within a target tissue in response to a change in the status.

#### APPLICANTS' ELECTION

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-14 and 36-38, drawn to a phosphoprotein reagent and a method of making the phosphoprotein detection reagent. Additionally, applicants hereby elect the following species upon which a search can be initiated:

- the metal ions of claim 5:  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ;
- the chelator donor molecules of claim 11: aminobutyl-nitriloacetic acid (AB-NTA); and
- the detectable donor moieties of claim 12: sulfo-N-hydroxysuccinimidyl-biotin (sulfo-NHS-biotin).

It is respectfully submitted that these species elections are readable upon claims 1-14 and 36-38.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-38 are now pending in the subject U.S. patent application. Claims 1-38 as filed have been subjected to a Restriction/Election Requirement.

In response to the Restriction/Election Requirement, applicants have elected the claims of Group I, claims 1-14 and 36-38, for prosecution at this time. Applicants have further elected the following species for prosecution at this time: metal ion -  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ; chelator donor molecule aminobutyl-nitriloacetic acid (AB-NTA); and detectable

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donor moiety: sulfo-N-hydroxysuccinimidyl-biotin (sulfo-NHS-biotin).

Applicants hereby reserve the right to file one or more divisional patent applications directed to the unelected subject matter.

### CONCLUSIONS

Should there be any minor issues outstanding in this matter, Examiner Fetterolf is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney. Early passage of the subject application to issue is earnestly solicited.

### Deposit Account

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account Number 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

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